

REMARKS

The Office rejects claims 1-5, 8-14, 16-18, and 20, objects to claims 6, 7, 15, and 19, and allows claims 21-23 in the subject application. Applicant amends claims 1, 6, 11, 15, 16, and 19, cancels claims 3-5 and 7, and adds new claims 24-29. Claims 1, 2, 6, and 8-29 (5 independent claims; 25 total claims) remain pending in the application.

Support for the various amendments may be found in the originally filed specification, claims, and figures. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §102 REJECTIONS

The Examiner rejects claims 1-5, 8-14, 16-18, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Beers (U.S. Patent No. 5,568,064, issued October 22, 1996, owned by International Business Machines Corporation). Since Applicant has canceled claims 3-5, the rejection of these claims is moot. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

As conceded by the Examiner in the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowable subject matter, Beers fails to teach, advise, or suggest "the terminating resistor short circuits between the pair of differential lines" as recited in claims 1, 11, 16, and to the extent applicable claim 24 (and claims 2, 8-10, 17, 18, 20, and 25-29, which variously depend from claims 1, 11, 16, and 24). The Examiner further states that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to modify the teachings of Beers to further include this missing claim limitation. No where does Beers teach, advise, or suggest this missing claim limitation.

Thus, Beers fails to teach, advise, or suggest one or more of the claimed limitations, so that claims 1-3, 4, 5, 8-14, 16-18, and 20 (and to the extent applicable claims 24-29) are patentable over Beers.

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**CONCLUSION**

Thus, the Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is thus requested. Applicant invites the Office to telephone the undersigned if he or she has any questions whatsoever regarding this Response or the present application in general.

Respectfully submitted,

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Page 9 of 9

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